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FOUR PAGES

SINGAPORE, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1945.

PRICE 10 CENTS

DUTCH WILL RUSH TROOPS TO EAST INDIES

Declaration Of War Not Taken Seriously In London

LONDON, Oct. 14.—Holland is preparing for counter-measures against the Indonesians and plans are being pushed forward for the immediate shipment to the N.E.I. of a number of battalions of Dutch troops in Britain. Eight Dutch minesweepers left today for Indies' waters.

All men of the Second Battalion of the Netherlands Sixth Infantry have been ordered to report to barracks in South Holland, from where they will leave immediately for Java.

In London, the Indonesians' declaration of war was not taken very seriously and, so far as its practical applications go, it is not considered in any way to affect the existing situation.

Hilversum Radio declares that Dr. Soekarno's position is "gradually becoming untenable," and an authoritative statement issued at The Hague said: "It is remarkable that the so-called 'declaration of war' has not been issued by the Soekarno Government. This emphasises the confusion among extreme nationalists in the Indies."

Batavia "Besieged"
Meanwhile, the greater part of the nationalist forces in Java have withdrawn to the interior, on the railway line connecting Batavia and Soerabaya, where the best Indonesian troops are now concentrated.

The situation is slightly quieter in Batavia, although the nationalists have declared it "in a state of siege." Clashes continue and road-blocks and barricades have begun to reappear. The city has been placed under Allied military administration as from today. A proclamation has been issued taking over control of law and order, public utility, and food supplies by the Allies.

DOCK STRIKES

ENDING IN LONDON CLYDE STILL "OUT"

LONDON, Oct. 14.—The dockers' strike in London is expected to be practically over tomorrow, but Clydeside workers have decided to remain on strike. Four thousand have ceased work on the Clyde.

Ships' clerks, who are "key" men because they check cargoes, have arranged for a meeting tomorrow and it is expected that all clerks now on strike will go back to work.

At Middlesbrough, (Yorkshire), the strike of 1,000 dockers ended today.

More troops are being sent back from the Continent to aid those who have already started unloading food ships. Soldiers replacing dockers will be increased by one-third in the Liverpool and Hull areas. Soldiers will also continue dock work at Manchester and Grimsby.—Reuter.

GERMANS GO TO AUSTRIA

VIENNA, Oct. 14.—The Austrian Provisional Government has made an urgent appeal to the Allies to save the country from a "locust cloud" of refugees, numbering about one million.

There are 300,000 to 400,000 Germans from the Balkans, and another half million are expected from the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia.

Unless a halt is called in this dumping of Germans on Austrian soil there may be a terrible epidemic this winter.—Reuter

ATOM BOMB

RUSSIA WILL HAVE SECRET SOON

PARIS, Oct. 14.—The secret of the atom bomb will be in the possession of Russia within the next six months, leading French scientist, Paul Rivet, declared here tonight.

Rivet stated that the Russians had taken off to Russia a group of German scientists captured on a Danish island, and who were "on the eve of successfully completing their researches on the atom bomb." The Russians had captured all the scientists' notes and equipment.

Already the scientists were ready to produce an atomic bomb 60 times more powerful than those used against Japan. Four of the new bombs would suffice to destroy the entire city of Paris, said Rivet.—Reuter.

CHINESE REFUSING VISAS TO BRITISH

LONDON, Oct. 14.—Complaints are coming from British business-men anxious to return to China that the Chinese authorities still refuse visas to passports for re-admission.

In refusing visas, the Chinese argue that most places are still military areas but, says the Far Eastern correspondent of the Sunday Observer, "we are not yet re-admitting Chinese or Chinese Consuls to Singapore and Hong Kong and until we do the Chinese are likely to take the same attitude."—Reuter.

British Artillery Support For French In Saigon

LONDON, Oct. 14.—Heavy fighting broke out in Saigon yesterday when British artillery went into action, supporting the French forces, who occupied the Northeast sector of the city, says Michael MacDonagh, Reuter's special correspondent. The nationalist forces lost 100 killed and 800 captured. French casualties were slight, it was stated. Two Japanese officers were caught and shot immediately, and it is believed more Japanese snipers were fighting with the nationalists.

The Allies must take all districts adjoining the Japanese "surrender" zones, before they

can accomplish the task of disarming Japanese troops.

French troops, who maintain a constant mortar barrage against the nationalist positions, have burned down an Annamite village, which they said was used by the nationalists as an arms-dump. The 500 inhabitants of the village had evacuated previously.

According to the Saigon radio, Annamese last night attacked Indian troops in Kanoi sector, attempting to chase them from their positions. Although well-organised these attacks were finally broken by mortar fire, and the sector is now calm.—Reuter.

U.S. Policy In Japan Displeases Australia

LONDON, Oct. 14.—"There is known to be considerable dissatisfaction in Australia over the policy which the U.S. is pursuing towards Japan," writes the political correspondent of the Sunday Observer.

"Australians dislike the American decision to keep the Japanese Emperor on his throne," he adds. "They consider that the Emperor cult was the essential element with militarism and big business monopolies in forming the evil trinity chiefly responsible for setting Japan on the path of aggressive war."

Some exception is taken also to the exclusive control which America is exercising over Japan. Australians recognise the splendid achievements of the American armed forces in the Pacific campaign, but they felt that Australia, as a country which always was and always must be closely endangered by Japanese ambitions, should have a much more effective voice in arrangements for disarming Japan and rendering her impotent for war-making in the future.

Dr. H. S. Evatt, Australian Minister for External Affairs, will shortly travel to Washington for the opening of the Far Eastern Advisory Council on Oct. 23.

Japs Saving Face

As a result of the Japanese face-saving campaign, the man-in-the-street in Tokio believes that the initiative for post-war reforms comes from the Japanese Emperor and the Government, rather than as the result of direct orders from General MacArthur, cables the Tokio correspondent of the Observer.

An example is given of the introduction this week of constitutional reform which outwardly appears to be merely under casual consideration but, behind the scenes, is being pushed forward at breakneck speed.

To the average Japanese, it seems that the initiative for the reform of the feudalistic Meiji Constitution came from the Emperor who normally alone can undertake such a basic revision of the Imperial system.

The Japanese public will probably never hear the true story of the Constitutional reform movement which is wholly due to Allied pressure and insistence on speed.—Reuter.

"APOLOGY MISSION" REBUFFED

CHUNGKING, Oct. 14.—The Japanese Government is losing interest in its idea for an "apology mission" to China.

When the first batch of 1,700 Chinese labourers, who had been kidnapped and forced to work in Japanese mines and pits, were returned to China on the same vessels that carried them into bondage six years ago, the Japanese Government sent along an envoy to visit General Wang Chieh, to thank the Chinese Government for the services of the kidnapped men to the Japanese war effort.

General Wang exploded with anger and dismissed the envoy, after condemning the audacity of the Japanese Government.

This puzzled the Japanese Government, which now seems less enthusiastic about its tentative approach to the Chinese Government.—Reuter.

RAID ON BERLIN'S BLACK MARKET

BERLIN, Oct. 13.—Over 2,000 persons, including some 100 Russian officers and soldiers, were arrested by the British military police and German civil police in a secretly-prepared raid on a busy black-market centre in the British zone of Berlin.

No British or American soldiers were involved. The Russians were handed over to the Russian authorities.

At Frankfurt today, General Eisenhower flatly denied reports that, by placing Germans in office in the U.S. zone, he was handing Germany back to the Germans.

As long as Americans were in Germany no Nazis would be allowed to vote or to work otherwise than as labourers, he said.—Reuter

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The Straits Times

SINGAPORE, TUES. Oct. 16, 1945

Malayan Union

What does this new Malayan Union mean? It surely means, to begin with, that the old Federation is to be scrapped and a new federation put in its place embracing all nine Malay States of the Peninsula (if we are to count tiny Perlis as a State). That has not been declared in so many words, but the creation of the Malayan Union can only mean the disappearance of the F.M.S. Government and the obliteration of the old distinctions between the Federated and Unfederated Malay States. How the very considerable obligations of the F.M.S. in respect of loans are to be financed remains to be seen, but it is impossible to see how the former entity known as the F.M.S. can be retained within the constitutional scheme outlined by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. It seems safe to assume that all the Malay States will be put on the same footing and that all will be subject to the same central government. This is Sir Cecil Clementi's vision of a Brotherhood of Malay Nations, brought down to the level of prosaic political fact, but where Sir Cecil used the word Malay we must say Malayan, for there is no question of Malay political predominance under the totally different conditions of present-day Malaya. The dangers of any such attempt are obvious to all.

One obvious implication of the scheme is that the political importance of Singapore will be very much less. Not only will it cease to be the capital of the Straits Settlements—because there will not be any colony of the Straits Settlements—but it will cease to be the seat of the High Commissioner's secretariat for dealing with Johore, Kedah, Kelantan, Trengganu and Perlis. We need have no regrets about that. Singapore is Malaya's commercial capital, but the true political capital of the Malayan mainland is Kuala Lumpur, where every tangible and intangible consideration—indeed the very atmosphere of Jalan Raja as compared with Empress Place—conduces to more sympathetic, informed and efficient control of all nine States of the Peninsula than the remote control exercised in pre-war days from Government House, Singapore.

So we must assume that there will be a central government in Kuala Lumpur, controlling the separate States and Settlements so far as is necessary to co-ordinate pan-Malayan services and enforce principles of British colonial policy, but not, we hope, taking so rigid and dictatorial a line as to kill State consciousness or healthy autonomy in purely State affairs. There is enough standardization and regimentation in the world today without destroying the individuality of these little States of the Malay Peninsula. But neither can we contemplate any return to the absurdities of pre-war Malaya, when the Governor and High Commissioner had to try to get agreement on pan-Malayan affairs among seven separate and independent governments (not counting the four State Governments within the Federation). If we are right in assuming that the Malayan Union will have one purse, into which all the tin and rubber and customs revenues of the entire mainland will flow, then the most independent of the Unfederated States will have cause to bless the day that not only brought them deliverance from Nam but brought them into the Malayan Union.

GENERAL ROBERTS LOOKS OVER THE F.M.S.

By OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Kuala Lumpur, Oct. 14.—Within two to three weeks of British occupation of the Malay Peninsula, law and order have been restored, road and railway communications are open, postal and telegraphic services are operating and electrical and water supplies are generally satisfactory throughout the country.

Lieut.-Gen. O. L. Roberts, G.O.C., 34th Indian Corps, whose headquarters are here, told me that there had been extraordinarily few cases of disorderliness and that, now that every state in the Peninsula had been occupied by British and Indian troops, he could say he was very satisfied with the situation.

He spoke warmly of the co-operation of all communities with the army and Civil Affairs Officers.

"Malaya has been extremely lucky," he said, in the course of an interview at the Selangor Residency.

Rice Crops Good

"The Peninsula has been far less affected by war than most countries which have been occupied by the enemy. It has almost entirely escaped serious fighting and extremely little damage has been done."

The potential wealth of the country was still here, he went on, and the damage to the rubber industry in particular had been negligible.

The Japanese had encouraged an increase in the food production of the country. Rice crops were in good condition and there should be a good harvest.

One of the main problems engaging the attention of the British Military Administration is to get people back to work. Most

government servants are once again at their posts, but a solution for unemployment among former clerical employ of businesses which have been shut down is not so easy to find.

The B.M.A. is organizing essential work on rubber estates through the senior Asiatic employee on the spot and, until the mines begin to operate again, the administration plans to put unemployed labourers on much essential clearing-up work in many areas throughout the Peninsula.

In the towns, where relief is much more needed than in rural areas, free food is being distributed to those who need it and the administration is being guided by the advice of relief committees representative of the various communities.

The fullest consideration is being given to the rice problem. The first shipment has arrived at Port Swettenham and others will be coming.

Prices Too High

Gen. Roberts considers that prices are too high and he is determined to do all in his power to see that they shall come down.

Price-fixing is at present under consideration and the administration will seek the aid of local advisory committees in assessing correct values. Breaches of regulations, when put into force, will be tried and punished.

Control would help in this matter of prices, said Gen. Roberts, but the real solution was to get imports into the country again. Something would be coming in soon, but it must be realized that it would be a year before the full amounts required could be imported.

A revival in business and in-

dustry is likely to take much sooner than was originally expected. Gen. Roberts is very satisfied with the progress, but he emphasizes that there is still much to be done.

A preliminary survey of rubber areas, including estates which have not been worked by the Japanese, has revealed that rubber trees, machinery and buildings are generally in a very satisfactory state.

Conductors and clerks have been found on most estates and, under directions from civil affairs officers, senior Asiatic employees are getting labour forces to begin essential clearing work.

Rubber More Vital

Gen. Roberts told me that rubber production will not really be a problem. The difficulty will be to get what is produced shipped to manufacturers who urgently need it.

The work of getting the rubber industry going has been given priority because rubber is more urgently needed than tin, but the administration is also considering the needs of the tin industry.

Few of the dredges are in working order and it must be some time before the necessary spares can be obtained. To employ mining labourers the administration plans to put them to work on grass clearing along roads in the areas in which they are living. It may also be found possible to give them clearing jobs on estates.

Gen. Roberts told me that he thought that military government of the Peninsula might have to last for six months—until April—but it was, of course, hoped to hand over to the civilian administration sooner than this.

The-Man-In-The-Street

Coolie Deathtrap

On Oct. 10 you published an article headed "Appalling treatment of F.M.S. Labourers." In cutting out this article and sending it home, I wrote over the top of it, "The half has not been told." I am one who knows.

For 20 months I was stationed on the medical staff (of three men) in three different camps in Siam, and also contacted all other members of our force—"K" Force, 150 men, which was entirely medical and left Changi for Kanbauri in June, 1943—and compared notes with them. Our camp was not the worst; others could tell an even sadder tale of their camps.

We had the experience of seeing—out of a camp of 4,500 Tamils, Chinese and Malays—1,000 pass out to the "Cornyard" (excuse the expression, it hadn't the dignity of anything more than a rubbish tip). Thus cholera, dysentery, malaria and the Japanese did their worst, and these poor blighters of coolies, for whom we developed a sympathetic affection, just had to lump it, (I know that the figure of 1,000 deaths from July to October, 1943, on the railway at Namchong is correct, because I was personally responsible for recording these deaths.)

What a chance for the B.M.A. to show something of the better side of life to these poor unfortunates now. —Brian B. Hutchison, (Pte.), 2/3rd Motor Ambulance Convoy, A.I.F.

Ejecting Tenants

There is a serious shortage of housing accommodation in Singapore.

Some landlords have refused to allow their previous tenants to re-occupy the houses which they had to vacate during the Japanese occupation because they (the landlords) want to let to their friends or on payment of "tea money." Where the previous tenant's furniture and fittings are still in the house, I submit that the previous tenant is legally entitled to re-occupy the house.

Some chief tenants have been ejecting poor and illiterate sub-tenants for non-payment of rent.

Before the situation becomes more serious, I would ask the authorities to publish a notification in the English and Chinese newspapers, reminding the public that the Increase of Rent Restriction Ordinance is still in force, that a tenant cannot be ejected without an order of the Rent Board, and that previous tenants should be given the first refusal to re-occupy their houses; and also giving the name and address of the Department to whom cases of hardship and unfair treatment may be reported.—"A Poor Tenant."

Better Luck Here?

It is sincerely hoped that Sir Harold MacMichael will have more success in reconciling the conflicting interests of Malays, Chinese, Indians, Eurasians, Europeans, etc., in Malaya, than he has apparently had with the Jews and Arabs in Palestine.—"S."

Points From Letters To The Straits Times

Catalogue

Mr. Oehler's letter is amusing. Persons of the following categories should be wise enough to know whither the path of glory will lead them:—(1) Recipients of letters of thanks from Tojo; (2) ambitious parents whose offspring have been selected to study in Tokyo to qualify as future collaborators; (3), owners of cars with black labels, (4), mentors and right-hand men of arch-spy Shinozaki; (5) local Lord Haw-Haws, inclusive of community leaders; (6) "New order" millionaires; (7) Flying "Jai Hinders" who have been shuttled to and from "Dai Toa."—Fish Hawker.

Changi Burial

The account of the mass murder of Chinese at Changi Point as given by Mr. Vaz in your issue of Oct. 8 was of interest to me, having been one of the party of personnel drawn from units of the R.A.A. to complete this gruesome task. Regarding the number massacred, I think Mr. Vaz is in error, for we buried 96 bodies that day, 15 more having been partially buried by another party the previous afternoon, making a total of 111.—Gunner I. N. Fulton, 21/5 Field Regiment, No. 5 Camp, P.O.W. Reception Centre, Changi.

Yamashita

"The gods are just, and of our pleasant vices Make instruments to plague us."

—S. J. A. Malacca.

Singapore Diary

A little function which was perhaps unique in the history of the British Empire was held in Singapore the other night. It was a dinner to celebrate "the restoration of the freedom of the Press." The author of this happy idea was Mr. Sarangapani, editor of the Tamil Murasu, and eight newspapers were represented among his guests. Needless to say, not one of those newspapers had any connection with the propaganda sheets of vanished "Syonan."

Under the Japanese the Press was rigidly censored and a feature such as "The Man-In-The-Street" would have been utterly impossible. Under the British Military Administration there is no censorship whatever, and free expression of both editorial and popular opinion is encouraged.

Looking around at that group of Chinese, Malay, Indian and British journalists sitting around the same table, one felt that that was a good augury for the future and an indication that this polyglot city of Singapore may yet give the mainland a lead in the realization of this new Malayan citizenship.

Referring to our comments on the first monthly anniversary of the invasion of Malaya, a correspondent points out that this could not properly be called an anniversary and that if it was anything at all, it was a luniversary.

Quite right, Luna mirabilis. Since, however, Latin has contributed nothing to the mother-tongues of 90 per cent. of our readers, we had better explain that anniversary is derived from "annus," meaning year. "Luna" is better understood, for the lunar calendar is well known in China.

Anyway, the Straits Times has finished with luniversaries. We thought it necessary to tell the story of "D-Day" once, and the first luniversary seemed the right occasion. But there won't be any more of them.

We nearly commemorated a real anniversary the other day, the "Double Tenth," but decided on second thoughts that it would be too depressing to recall what happened in Changi Gaol and lots of other places on that date in 1943. The present is too harassing and the future too interesting to waste time on reviving unhappy memories.

Here's a tip for our readers. Don't throw away your daily copy of the Straits Times. Keep it for posterity. The Straits Times in these days, small as it is, is a mirror of Singapore during a unique period in its history. Singapore will never be again (we hope) as it is in these days, and the local news we are giving you now will be of intense interest twenty years from now. Moreover, much of the material now being published has a definite value for local history: for example, Col. Bretherton's article on the Malay Regiment in the Malayan campaign. It is so easy to be careless about these things, and chuck the day's paper into the wastepaper basket without giving a thought for the future, but, believe me, any Singaporean who preserves as a family memento a bound volume of the Straits Times covering these early months after the Second World War will be blessed by his grandchildren.

Cecil Street.

SINGAPORE WHARVES: 30 PER CENT OF CAPACITY

Murder Of Alleged Jap Collaborator

On Sept. 26 a man was stabbed to death in Marseling Road because, it was alleged, he had, during the Japanese occupation of Singapore, assisted the Japanese in obtaining food supplies and had been instrumental in getting another man beaten up.

Yesterday, Hiew Meo was charged in the Superior Court before Lt.-Col. A. J. Bostock Hill with the murder of Wang Kang Heng. Hiew Meo was the man alleged to have been beaten up by the Japanese.

Mr. A. P. Rajah acted as Prosecutor and the defence was led by Mr. K. T. Ooi.

Mr. Rajah in his opening said that on Sept. 26, Heng Meo went up to a policeman at Woodlands and handed him a three-cornered file. He also took the policeman to Marseling Road where he pointed out the dead body of a Chinese.

The case is proceeding.

Fees for the monthly temporary occupation of Crown lands and foreshores, and rents on Government buildings let out to the public are due at the Land Office, Municipal Building, with effect from Oct. 1, 1945, and will be received between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

DEATH.

Tan Quee Leng—On Feb. 21, 1945, aged 33, formerly of College of Medicine. A victim of Jap massacre at Changi. He leaves behind his loving wife, daughter, an aged mother, 1 brother, 4 sisters and 2 brothers-in-law.

"G." (M.G.) COY.

2nd Bn. S.S.V.F.

Major L. A. Williams regrets that it has not been possible to meet all surviving members, but wishes them the best of luck and a speedy return to normal life. He extends his deepest sympathy to the relatives of those who made the supreme sacrifice, with an assurance that provision for their welfare is under active consideration by the authorities.

TENDERS.

Tenders are invited for the making of the following uniforms for Police Inspectors, Singapore, the necessary cloth will be supplied:—

Bush Jackets	150
Trousers	150
White Tunics	200
White Wolsey Helmets	120

Sealed tenders addressed to the Commissioner of Police, Singapore Police Force, will be received up to 18.10.45.

WANTED.

Any owner of sailing craft out East wishing to have it sailed to United Kingdom should write or communicate with Commander Martyn Sherwood, Penang.

Dr. Hobart B. Amstutz will gladly pay reasonable sums for books bearing his name, specially for a set named "Best Stories" with the initials "H.B.A." on the cover; and volumes from Kent's "Students' Old Testament". Address: Methodist Mission, 4 Fort Canning Road.

FOR SHOES of Quality and Durability drop in at the Fashion Shoe Shop—Yong Cheong Shoe Co., 354 North Bridge Road. Once again at your service.

PERSONAL.

Will Mr. James Macindoe, formerly of Sungai Ayam Tin Mines, please get in touch with Q. S. Tham of 80 Stevens Road or Phone 4949.

REWARD.

For information of the whereabouts of the motor and compressor of the airconditioning plant removed from the Alhambra Theatre, Singapore sometime in May 1945. Write or call Shaw Brothers Ltd., 116 Robinson Road.

Private tuition given by an experienced Lady-teacher in English, French, German, Dutch & Malay at Palm Grove Avenue, Serangoon.

Big Delay In Unloading Precious Supplies

SHORTAGE OF LABOUR BECOMES A SERIOUS PROBLEM

By a Special Correspondent

The Singapore wharves are working at only 30 per cent. of their capacity.

This is the considered opinion of a former Malayan resident with over 25 years experience of wharf-work and labour conditions in Singapore.

There are in Singapore today scores of vessels anchored in the roads and the western anchorage waiting to come alongside the wharves to discharge urgently needed goods and service stores.

Many vessels, including a number of Liberty ships, are alongside the wharves where they are being unloaded, but with so much delay, that it will be days and perhaps weeks before the vessels outside can come in and discharge their cargoes.

The reasons for the delay in the work of unloading the precious supplies of food, medicines and clothing are these: 1. Lack of co-ordinated effort; 2. Work of superintending labour is inexperienced hands; 3. Transport arrangements are not systematic; 4. Insufficient pay and an utter lack of inducement to labourers.

Labour Problem

And here are some remedies, suggested by men, both European and local, who have worked on the wharves before and know their capacity: 1. Establish centralized control on all wharf operations in the hands of people who have experience and knowledge of this important work; 2. Pool all transport available for moving cargo from the wharves to their destinations; 3. Utilise all godown space available; 4. Increase the number of labourers by improving their conditions, especially pay and food.

When I toured the wharves yesterday I found that vessels were being unloaded under the supervision of service personnel. The gangs of labourers were made up of Indian, Chinese, Malays and Indonesians.

A serious problem facing the wharf authorities is the shortage of labour. Some of the labourers left their work after the first few days because they felt that a wage of 70 cents per day was not sufficient. The contractor who supplies the labour deducts five cents from the 70.

Labourers start work at 8 a.m. break off at noon for lunch. They are given a ball of plain cooked rice. They resume work at 1 p.m. and work till 5 p.m. Night work commences at 8 p.m. with a one-hour break for food at midnight, when labourers are given another ball of rice each. Night work stops at 5 a.m.

Payment On Work Done

In spite of their undernourished state some labourers try to do day and night work (they get \$1.30 for night work) in order to earn sufficient to keep up with the high cost of living in Singapore. The results are sometimes disastrous.

Labourers I spoke to said more pay was necessary, better food arrangements, and a few cheap cigarettes a day.

Contractors are of opinion that payment on the amount of work done or quantity of goods carried would result in speedier work. One contractor who was

having a difficult time with unloading a coal ship complained bitterly that whereas it would have taken "about three and a half days to unload this ship with proper labour," the ship has been alongside for the past four weeks—and work of unloading has not been completed yet.

Some vessels have been alongside for as long as five weeks, while vessels that were on a priority list have been alongside for between a week and a fortnight. Work on priority vessels goes on around the clock, but even then, after a lapse of ten days, they have not been totally discharged.

"We are complaining of lack of ships. There would be no need for such a grouse if ships were speedily unloaded when they could be sent out to bring back more cargo. In the time that one vessel has been laid up alongside the wharves, I could have done two trips to Bangkok and back with shiploads of rice," was the comment of a former ship's master in Singapore.

"Singapore I.L.L."

M. P. Mohamed Ibrahim And Co.'s Address Wrongly Used (To the Editor, Straits Times)

Sir,—We were surprised to notice that the letter headed "Singapore I.L.L." published in the Straits Times on Oct. 15 was signed "B. Mohamed Hussain, 5 Rochore Road, Singapore."

We have no one of such name here, and have no knowledge of the origin of this letter. Further, the Indian Muslim Committee, which has its office at our address, knows nothing about the writer of this letter.

Please make it clear that neither we nor the Indian Muslim Committee had anything to do with this letter.—Yours, etc. M. P. Mohamed Ibrahim and Co. 5 Rochore Road, Singapore.

Detective Kidnapped: Reward Offered

A reward of \$1,000 is being offered for information leading to the discovery of a Chinese detective and the persons responsible for his kidnapping from his house in Geylang Road on Friday night. Six armed Chinese were reported to have called on, and kidnapped him.

The missing detective is Teo Bah Chih.

Jobs For Ex-volunteers

All members of the S.S.V.F. and F.M.S.V.F. and also locally enlisted personnel of the regular army who are at the present moment unemployed, are asked to report to the Volunteer Headquarters in Beach Road on any morning when they will be offered employment. The Straits Times was officially informed today.

SINGAPORE AERIAL LINK TO BE RESUMED

The ground organization for the speedy aerial connection of Singapore with the United Kingdom and Australia is being set up in Singapore today by a ground staff of Qantas Empire Airways, who are also looking after the interests of the British Overseas Airways Corporation.

Qantas Empire Airways have opened an office in Raffles Quay from where Captain R. B. Tapp and his staff are superintending the establishment of a ground organization to prepare for operations which is hoped to resume in the very near future.

One Qantas ship arrived in Singapore on Oct. 8 bringing with it ground staff and equipment. The ship, the first commercial flying-boat to arrive in Singapore after the war, returned to Sydney on Oct. 12.

"Music For All"

There has been an alteration in the dates of "Music For All" concerts at the Victoria Memorial Hall. The opening date will be tomorrow, but the next two concerts will be on Oct. 20 and Oct. 23, and not on Thursday and Friday this week, as previously announced.

Rally in Honour of Mr. Tan Kah Kee

Under the sponsorship of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce a mass rally will be held at the Happy World Stadium on Sunday the 21st of October at 2 p.m. in honour of Mr. Tan Kah Kee. All Chinese Public bodies are invited to send representatives to attend. Each organization may send from 2 to 20 representatives. Will those organizations who wish to join the rally kindly submit to the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce at 47 Hill Street on or before Thursday the 18th of October their own badges (pieces of cloth ribbons 6-in by 1½-in. with the names of organization and representative written on it) for us to stamp our seal on it in order to gain admission to the stadium.

ALL PERSONNEL OF THE ROYAL NETHERLANDS CONSULATE GENERAL

AT SINGAPORE

are requested to report to the NETHERLANDS R.A.P.W.I. Office, Merchant Seamen Guild Building, 1st floor, No. 1, Raffles Quay, any day between 08.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.

SALVATION ARMY MOBILE CANTEENS.

Any information concerning the whereabouts of the Mobile Canteens equipped and running for the benefit of Passive Defense and Military Services, up to February 24th, 1942, would be appreciated at The Salvation Army Headquarters, 30, Oxley Road, Singapore.

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Malay Prince K.L.'s 'Mayor'

(From Our Own Correspondent)

Kuala Lumpur, Oct. 13.—A Malay prince Major Tunngu Abu Bakar of Johore, son of Sultan Ibrahim—is "mayor" of Kuala Lumpur, presiding as chairman of the Sanitary Board, which is responsible for urban affairs.

An officer in the civil affairs service of the B.M.A., his main problem is clearing up the filthy state of the Federal Capital, as a result of neglect during three-and-a-half years of Japanese occupation.

"The Japanese," he told me, "realized that they would not be able to retain this country and exploited it to the utmost."

The Japanese have allowed the town to get into a deplorable state. The Board's once efficient street-cleaning and conservancy systems were allowed to deteriorate and much of the equipment and transport has been stolen or destroyed.

Since taking over, Tunngu Abu Bakar, assisted by Major Gwynn Jones, R.A.M.C., has taken vigorous action for the solution of elementary problems.

Some idea of the task that lies ahead of the sanitary authorities may be gained from the fact that the Japanese permitted the use of certain ordinary rooms in many buildings and public shelters as latrines.

A meeting of council members of the All-Malayan Estate Asiatic Staffs' Association will be held at 27, Java Street, Kuala Lumpur, on Oct. 21

S.S.A.F.A.

(Soldier's, Sailor's and Airmen's Families' Association) Representatives of the above Association have opened an office at:— WHITEAWAY LAIDLAW BUILDG. 2nd Floor Battery Road.

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Domiciled Peoples Welcome New Malayan Policy

CITIZENSHIP SCHEME A WISE STEP

By Our Special Correspondent

Kuala Lumpur, Oct. 12.—The British Government's proposals for a Malayan union and the creation of a Malayan citizenship are generally welcomed by members of the domiciled communities here, although full details of the statement made by the Secretary of State for the Colonies on Wednesday are still awaited.

All communities have been impressed by this prompt statement of policy so soon after British reoccupation of the Peninsula and also by the despatch with which His Majesty's Government's special representative, Sir Harold MacMichael, has arrived to meet the Malay Rulers and discuss with them new treaties and engagements.

There is nothing essentially new about the proposals put forward by Mr. George Hall, it is pointed out here.

A union of all the Malay States was envisaged by the founders of the Federation in 1896, but during the half century since then the unfederated states of Johore, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Trengganu have not been persuaded that it was in their essential interests to join.

It remains to be seen whether Malay opinion in these states has been modified by the course of events in the past few years.

Malayan Citizenship

The creation of a Malayan citizenship has been advocated by leaders of the domiciled communities for more than 20 years and was supported by at least one of the F.M.S. English language newspapers.

Mr. Hall's statement is regarded as formal recognition at least of the rights and the needs of the Chinese, Indian, Ceylonese and Eurasian communities who have no other home than Malaya, who have done so much towards the creation of the country as it is and who now occupy a dominant role in the economic and business life of the Peninsula.

Local opinion welcomes Mr. Hall's definition of qualification for citizenship as birth or a suitable period of residence, thus excluding a considerable section of the population who are birds of passage, coming to Malaya only for a few years to make money and return to their own countries.

It is too early to say what the Malay reaction is to the citizenship scheme which grants equal rights to all truly domiciled in the country, but it obviously concerns Malay interests considerably.

Pro-Malay Policy Ended

It must mean the abandonment of the so-called pro-Malay policy and the recognized right of others than Malays to a voice in public affairs and the throwing open of all branches of the government services to all citizens of the union.

The domiciled communities, for their part, have always fully recognized the right of the Malays to special consideration and treatment in their own states, but they have found themselves opposed to the relatively small section which has preached that the Malays have exclusive rights.

Members of the non-Malay communities emphasize that prior to the Japanese occupation there were good relations existing between all races in this country. It can be truly said that there was little or no inter-racial feeling.

Malays, Chinese, Indians, Ceylonese and Eurasians of the new generations born and bred in this country have in many cases been to the same English

schools. They have come to understand each other's points of view.

They believe that this new citizenship can be made to rest securely on a sound foundation of accord and mutual understanding.

Regarding the renewed assurance of a graduated advance towards self-government within the British Commonwealth, members of the domiciled communities hope that this will mean an early extension of public representation on boards and councils, when the military administration hands over to the civilian government.

Greater unofficial participation in civic affairs is suggested as a starting point for the proposed reforms, with the creation of special municipal areas for Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh and Seremban, with an electorate based on ratepayers.

There is also considerable support for unofficial majorities in the state and union councils, though opinion is divided on the desirability, in the initial stages, of an electoral system for these bodies.

Only brief cabled summaries of the Secretary of State's announcement have yet been published in the newspapers and the public is awaiting the full statement of policy which it expects to get from the British Military Administration in the near future before any detailed comment can be made on these important proposals.

Employment For M.A.S.

Preference for employment will be given to those former members of the M.A.S. who report to training centres nearest to their homes on Wednesday (Oct. 17) at 5.30 p.m.

The centres to be opened for training are at Pearl's Hill School, Rangoon Road School, A.C.S. in Cairnhill, Telok Ayer Church, Methodist Preparatory School in Upper Serangoon Road, Choon Guan School, and St. Joseph's Institution.

An examination will be held at the end of the course and Health Visitors' Certificates will be issued to the successful candidates.

★ NEWS IN BRIEF ★

Lieut.-General W. D. Morgan has been appointed Supreme Allied Commander in the Mediterranean theatre, in succession to Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, who is to be the new Governor-General of Canada.

Twelve Liberty ships will take 20,000 Japanese prisoners and internees back home from the Philippines this month, it is learned from a usually reliable source in Manila. Protests are anticipated from Americans eligible for return to the United States, who are held up through lack of transport. According to a high Army source, the policy of making the Japanese responsible for the return of their own prisoners has been reversed because of the cost of feeding them.

Admiral Voulgaris' Cabinet has resigned. Troops and police are standing by in Athens after the banning yesterday of Royalist demonstrations on the anniversary of the city's liberation.

The Chinese Foreign Office has instructed the Chinese Embassy in Washington to lodge a second protest with the Siamese Minister against anti-Chinese activities in Siam.

Britain and America are making good progress towards forging a "united front" for an international trade conference to be held next June.

The Dutch Premier, Prof. Schermerhorn, said at The Hague that the Government could not deviate from the course which it had set itself to bring self-government to Indonesia.

The United Nations shipping pool will be terminated on March 2, it was announced by the United Maritime Executive.

Representatives of 95 Japanese cities met in Tokyo today and decided to rebuild their cities in a manner that would make them as nearly as possible fire-proof.

General Dwight Eisenhower may be the first Secretary-General of the United Nations, suggests the News-Chronicle diplomatic correspondent.

Winston Churchill is confined to his house with a sore throat, and it is improbable that he will be able to attend the Parliamentary debate on supplies and services, or the housing debate.

SINGAPORE ENTERTAINMENTS

PALACEGAY—New Bridge Road.

October 15th to 17th
Action & Thrills
ZORRO RIDES AGAIN
(John Carroll)

1.00 — 3.15 — 6.15 — 9.15 P.M.
GLOBE—Great World Park

INVISIBLE WOMAN
(Virginia Bruce)

3.00 — 7.00 — 9.00 P.M.
Tomorrow:
ARIZONA

(William Holden & Jean Arthur)
SKY—Great World Park

FAST AND LOOSE
(Robert Montgomery & Rosalind Russell)

7.00 — 9.00 P.M.
Tomorrow:
WESTERNER
(Gary Cooper)

SIN AH—Great World Park

October 15th to 17th
Full of Punch & Rough Riding
SPEED REPORTER
(Richard Talmadge)

RUSTLER'S ROUND-UP
(Tom Mix)

7.00 — 9.00 P.M.
CENTRAL—New World Park

HAVING A WONDERFUL TIME
(Douglas Fairbanks Jr. & Ginger Rogers)

7.00 — 9.00 P.M.
Tomorrow:
TEST PILOT
(Clark Gable)

GRAND—New World Park

BADMAN FROM MISSOURI
(Dennis Morgan & Wayne Morris)

7.00 — 9.00 P.M.
Tomorrow:
FLYING DEUCES
(Laurel & Hardy)

SUN—New World Park

CONTRABAND
(Conrad Veidt)

3.00 — 7.00 — 9.00 P.M.
Tomorrow:
FLIGHT ANGEL
(Dennis Morgan & Virginia Bruce)

ROYAL—North Bridge Road.

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